



THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

FRED LEAF
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
313 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 240-8101

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Gloria Molina
First District

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

July 8, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 11 – HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE LOS
ANGELES COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO BATHHOUSES AND SIMILAR
COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS (All Districts) (3 Votes)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

- 1) Approve the attached ordinance amending Title 11 – Health and Safety of the Los Angeles County code, relating to Bathhouses and Similar Commercial Establishments.
- 2) Authorize the Chairman of the Board to send letters to the Mayor and President of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles, urging adoption of the ordinance by the city.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Approval of the ordinance will amend the code to require commercial sex venues (CSVs) to obtain a public health facility permit from the Health Officer as a condition of operation. CSVs shall comply with commercial sex venue regulations, issued by the Health Officer, as a prerequisite to obtaining a public health facility permit.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

A permit fee will be charged to each CSV. The permit fee will cover all of the projected Departmental costs of enforcement and administration of the program. In addition to the permit fee, the CSVs will incur costs of comply with the guidelines.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
July 8, 2004
Page 2

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

On February 3, 2004, the Board approved a motion by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, instructing the Department of Health Services and County Counsel to report to the Board with recommendations on bathhouses and other venues. On June 21, 2004, the report, Regulation of Commercial Sex Venues, was provided to the Board. The Department's recommendation was that the County's Code be amended to require each Commercial Sex Venue (CSV) to obtain a public health facility permit from the Health Officer. Each CSV shall comply with Commercial Sex Venue Guidelines, issued by the Health Officer, as a condition of obtaining the permit. A draft of the guidelines was attached to the report.

The guidelines will be issued by the Health Officer within 30 days of the adoption of the ordinance and may be amended by the Health Officer from time to time as needed. An updated draft of the guidelines will be provided to the Board prior to July 20, 2004.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

Not applicable.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

The recommended ordinance and guidelines are designed to reduce the amount of high risk sexual activity occurring and thus reduce the transmission of HIV and other STDs, through standardized education, testing and significantly enhanced monitoring, as well as sanctions for non-compliance with enhanced regulatory requirements.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

TLG:r

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors